

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, March 4, 2013
The Center of Clayton – Multipurpose Room C

Members present: Ira Berkowitz, Brad Bernstein, Mimi Deem, Marguerite Garrick, Laurel Harrington, Darryl Higuchi, Eric Schneider and Mark Stapleton.

Absent: Andrea Maddox-Dallas and Michelle Harris

Also Present: Carrie Coyne, Patty DeForrest, Eric Gruenenfelder, Ted Spaid and Denise Ucinski.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as written.

Addresses from the Audience:

There were no addresses from the audience.

Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay:

Mr. Spaid from SWT presented the updated Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay. The Steering Committee has been working with SWT on the Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay. They have also met with the Advisory Board to discuss the project with potential donors.

Mr. Spaid's presentation focused on the overlay vision, statistics, the five and ten minute walking circles near Shaw Park, important positioning of Shaw Park to the community, the overlay of art and green space and how we can extend the vision of the Shaw Park boundaries.

Mr. Spaid noted that there needs to be a strong invitation into the park and better connectivity by Clayton High School. Improved parking in that area could create twenty-four new spots while reducing existing parking concerns. A new entry on Brentwood with water near it would mask the sound of traffic. The Public Works Department has applied for a street grant which would take the street out of the park and create additional parking on Brentwood, as well as reduce traffic issues taking place at the circle drop area. Additional plans being discussed include a water feature and plaza at the corner of Brentwood and Forsyth.

A new ice rink facility could be a two story building with a viewing platform. It could also be used as a multi-use facility. The ice rink would be turned ninety degrees which would create more room between the aquatic center and the ice rink.

Furthermore, it is being suggested that the road near the South Shelter needs to be less of a road; the area by the ball fields and I-170 should become more of a green drop-off and pick-up location buffered with planting near the Forest Park Parkway. The area by the trail connection would consist of native woodlands, a meadow and an open lawn picnic area. Pavers could be added where the amphitheater is graded and a teen-adventure area could be located on the other side of the South Shelter. Maintaining open space in the park is very important. The proposed stream would be a closed loop system which would use the least amount of new water.

In summary, there are twenty-nine acres of green space in Shaw Park; enhancements would create diversity of landscape features. The park is currently recreationally oriented; most people do not visit the park to look at landscaping so the goal is to bring more life to the park. More hardscape would not be added; the newest feature would be adding the water system which creates more biodiversity. There would be more native and flowering plants rather than just grass and trees, open space to run around, engaging elements and more opportunities for kids to connect with nature. What is needed next for the Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay is cost estimates, a phasing plan and a maintenance plan. Ms. DeForrest noted that some components will be ready soon: the art in the century garden, art for the Moneta Garden, the Shaw Park walking trail and some rain gardens.

Director's Report:

-Tennis Center Management: Frontenac Tennis Club was selected as the new Tennis Center service provider. The club has been in business since the 1980's. Ms. DeForrest said they were the best fit, the references they provided checked out well and they were very agreeable to CHS usage. The City will enter into a one year contract with the Frontenac Tennis Club. Beginning on April 1, the club will run programs. The high school season is already set and the contractor is aware of it. This agreement means that the Tennis Center will be staffed more hours, there will be great tennis pros and more recreational programs will be offered. The Parks and Recreation Commission stated that they were in favor of the Tennis Center being managed by the Frontenac Tennis Club.

Project Update – Enterprise Holdings Pavilion: Ms. DeForrest said the project will be re-bid as they have worked with the architect to cut some of the higher end costs associated with the project. These cuts include elimination of the green roof, some of the stone work on the restrooms, timber reduction, changes to concrete work, retaining walls and roof panels.

-Shaw Park Recreational Trail: the trail project has begun; there will be times when the park will be unusable. Weather permitting; this project is slated to be complete by early June.

-Hanley House Porches: The porch project is nearing completion. Everything has gone well and was done within budget. On April 4 from 4:30-6:30 pm there will be a dedication ceremony at the Hanley House. The windows were removed from the house so tours will not be available during the event.

-Dog Park: membership passes will go on sale on April 1. The dog park is scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend. The Anderson's would like to pay for park signage. Proposed signage will open up the park entrance. Ms. DeForrest said their signage concept is great and they are aware of the ARB approval process.

-Centennial Greenway: The greenway opening will take place on April 26. Trees will be planted along the trail.

Ms. DeForrest reported that Governor was at the Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Conference. Also, Mr. Steve Strum received the volunteer coach of the year award through the State of Missouri. .

The Ice Rink Study is getting started. Staff has met with Jacobs Engineering and they have already to coordinate with SWT. Both the Master Plan Overlay and Ice Rink Conceptual Design should be completed by the end of July.

Old Business / New Business

No old or new business was reported.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted By: Denise Ucinski